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PATENT Filed: July 2, 2001

1. (currently amended) A system for accessing a wide area computer network based on a viewer-selected portion of televised closed captioning, comprising:

a TV; and

a processor coupled to the TV and receiving televised closed captioning content, the processor accessing at least one site in the network based at least partially thereon, the processor accessing a Web site associated with a term in the closed captioning content by prepending "www." and appending ".com" to the term to render a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) that a browser associated with the processor can use to access the Web site.

- 2. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the processor receives a viewer selected portion of the closed captioning content, the processor accessing at least one site in the network based at least partially on the selected portion.
- 3. (original) The system of Claim 2, further comprising an input device manipulable to establish the selected portion.
- 4. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a data storage for storing closed captioning content, the data storage being accessible to the processor.
- 5. (original) The system of Claim 2, wherein the processor accesses a wide area network search engine and inputs as a search term or phrase at least portions of the selected portion of the closed captioning content.
- 6. (original) The system of Claim 2, wherein the processor accesses a wide area network site using a URL derived at least in part from the selected portion.

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A method for accessing at least one wide area network site based at least in part on 7. (original) televised closed captioning, comprising:

receiving the closed captioning at a television receiver;

receiving at least one viewer selection of at least a selected portion of the closed captioning;

and

automatically accessing the network site based at least in part on the selected portion.

- 8. (original) The method of Claim 7, wherein the act of receiving is undertaken by receiving a remote control signal.
 - 9. (original) The method of Claim 7, further comprising storing the closed captioning.
 - 10. (original) The method of Claim 7, further comprising:

accessing a search engine; and

inputting as a search term or phrase at least portions of the selected portion.

- 11. (original) The method of Claim 7, further comprising:
- accessing a wide area network site using a URL derived at least in part from the selected portion.
- 12. (original) A system for linking televised content to wide area computer network content, comprising:

means for receiving the televised content, the televised content including alpha-numeric characters:

means for receiving a viewer selection of at least some of the characters; and means responsive to the viewer selection for automatically accessing a wide area network site.

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- 13. (original) The system of Claim 12, further comprising means for storing at least some of the characters.
- 14. (original) The system of Claim 12, wherein the means for accessing accesses a search engine and inputs as a search term or phrase at least portions of the viewer selection.
- 15: (original) The system of Claim 12, wherein the means for accessing accesses a wide area network site using a URL derived at least in part from the viewer selection.
 - 16. (original) The system of Claim 12, wherein the alpha numeric characters are closed captioning.
- 17. (original) The system of Claim 16, wherein the closed captioning is displayed in a closed captioning window associated with the means for receiving televised content.
- 18. (original) The system of Claim 12, wherein the viewer selection is received from a user input device.
- 19. (original) The system of Claim 12, wherein the means for receiving televised content is a television.
- 20. (original) The system of Claim 12, wherein the means for receiving televised content includes a processor.

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